

Missouri Military Preparedness and Enhancement Commission
Commission Meeting via Conference Call
November 5, 2005
Meeting Minutes

Members Attending: Dalton Wright, Rep. David Pearce, Kent Thomas, Bob Welling, Loretta Charleston, Rep. Terry Witte, Sen. Chris Koster, Sen. Frank Barntiz, Craig Borchelt.

Others attending: Aaron Washburn; Sharon Gulick

Guests: Jon Davis, MissouriNet

Chairman Wright called the meeting to order at 3:07 p.m.

2005 Annual Report

Members reviewed the proposed language change to Item A, Quality of Life. Proposed language would read:

Appoint a task force to review the information from the "Department of Defense Model Legislation to Address the Issues of the Mobile Military Child" and study ways in which Missouri, at both the state and local level, can best address the educational concerns of Missouri-based military personnel and their families. The Commission will, based on the recommendations of the task force, develop strategies and make recommendations after a thorough review of the options available, including the residency requirements for school board elections, **as well as allowing absentee voting at school board elections by non-resident military personnel and their spouses stationed at Fort Leonard Wood and Whiteman Air Force Base.**

Rep. Witte asked for clarification of "non-resident". Mr. Welling explained that it referred to military personnel whose official place of residence was in another state but who were stationed at a Missouri military base.

After discussion, it was agreed that the Commission was not recommending that Missouri take this action, only including this as an action to be considered. The Task Force approved at last meeting will consider this as well as other factors included in the Dept. of Defense Model Legislation.

Mr. Thomas moved that Item A, Quality of Life be adopted as amended. Ms. Charleston seconded the motion. Motion approved.

The Commission's 2005 Annual Report will now be posted on the website and copies will be printed. Ms. Gulick estimated that the printed copies will be ready by Thanksgiving. She will work with Mr. Wright and Rep. Pearce to prepared cover letters to go with the copies of the report sent to Governor Blunt and members of the General Assembly.

Task Force

The Task Force was approved at the last meeting with 7 members:

- A representative from the Waynesville School Board
- A representative from the Knob Noster School Board
- Mr. Ron Taylor, Missouri Veterans Commission
- Senator Frank Barnitz
- Representative David Pearce
- MMPEC Chair or designee
- A representative from the Missouri School Boards Association

Mr. Wright suggested the addition of two more members to present Fort Leonard Wood and Whiteman Air Force Base.

Mr. Welling moved to modify the structure of the task force to include a total of nine members. Senator Koster seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Mr. Wright then suggested that Kent Thomas to serve as Chair of the Task Force.

Mr. Welling moved to appoint Kent Thomas to serve as task force chair. Senator Barnitz seconded the motion. Motion approved.

It was agreed that the members of the task force would be named in early January, 2006 and that the task force would hold 3 or 4 meetings between February and April of 2006. At least one meeting will be held on or near Fort Leonard Wood and one on or near Whiteman Air Force Base to allow for input from military families. The final meeting(s) will be held in Jefferson City.

At the January 19th Commission meeting we will set guidelines and a scope of work for the task force. Ms. Gulick and Mr. Thomas will work on developing an information packet to be sent to the members of the task force.

Mr. Thomas moved that the meeting be adjourned. Mr. Welling seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Meeting adjourned.

Minutes Approved:



19 January 2006

Dalton Wright, Chair

Date